General Assembly

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Agenda item 106

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 4 May 2017

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/71/L.65)*]

71/287. Modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/179 of 17 December 2015, in which it recalled the holding of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly during its sixty-seventh session, from 13 to 15 May 2013, to appraise the progress achieved in the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[1] and in which it decided to appraise on a four-year basis starting at its seventy-second session, the progress achieved in the implementation of the Global Plan of Action in order to assess achievements, gaps and challenges, including in the implementation of the relevant legal instruments, and therefore to convene, within existing resources, a high-level meeting of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, in October 2017, immediately after the general debate,

Recalling also its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, by which it adopted the Global Plan of Action,

Recalling further its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[2] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[3]

Recalling its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

1. *Decides* that the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[1] will be held on Wednesday, 27 September, and Thursday, 28 September 2017, and will consist of an opening plenary meeting on 27 September from

[1] Resolution 64/293.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[3] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

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10 to 11 a.m., plenary meetings on 27 September from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on 28 September from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., and a closing plenary meeting after the list of speakers has been exhausted, as well as two consecutive interactive panel discussions on 27 September in the afternoon;

2. *Also decides* that:

(*a*) The opening plenary meeting will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-second session, the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as well as an eminent person actively engaged in the fight against trafficking in persons and a representative of civil society, at least one of whom should be a survivor of human trafficking and both of whom are to be identified by the President of the Assembly;

(*b*) The plenary meeting will hear statements by Member States and all observers of the General Assembly, the list of speakers will be established in accordance with the rules of procedure and established practices of the Assembly and the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States;

3. *Further decides* that the organizational arrangements for the interactive panel discussions to be held on 27 September 2017 in the afternoon, each to be chaired by a Member State at the invitation of the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, after consultations with regional groups, will be as follows:

(*a*) Interactive panel discussion 1, to be held from 3 to 4.30 p.m., will address the theme "The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the prevention and prosecution of trafficking in persons: achievements, gaps and challenges, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals";

(*b*) Interactive panel discussion 2, to be held from 4.30 to 6 p.m., will address the theme "The Global Plan of Action and effective partnerships for the protection of and assistance to victims, including through the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, also taking into consideration the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals";

(*c*) The Chairs of the interactive panel discussions will present summaries of the discussions at the closing plenary meeting, followed by final remarks by the President of the General Assembly;

(*d*) In order to promote interactive and substantive discussions, participation in each panel discussion will include Member States, observers, representatives of United Nations organizations and entities, and representatives of international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, the private sector and the media;

4. *Invites* Member States and all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level;

5. *Encourages* Member States to consider including in their delegations to the high-level meeting members of national human rights institutions, representatives of law enforcement, parliamentarians, representatives of civil

society active in combating trafficking in persons, survivors of trafficking in persons and representatives of the private sector;

6. *Invites* all relevant United Nations system entities, in particular the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, including programmes, funds, specialized agencies and regional commissions, as well as relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, to participate in the high-level meeting;

7. *Also invites* interested representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the high-level meeting;

8. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session to draw up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may attend the high-level meeting and participate in the interactive panel discussions, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation, and with due regard to the meaningful participation of women, and to submit the list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis;

9. *Also requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, to organize, no later than July 2017, and to preside over a one-day informal interactive multi-stakeholder hearing, attended by representatives of Member States, all observers of the General Assembly, national human rights institutions compliant with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles),[4] non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector, welcomes their contribution to the process, and requests the President to prepare a summary of the hearing;

10. *Further requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session to hold open, transparent and inclusive intergovernmental negotiations with all Member States, through two co-facilitators to be appointed by the President, with a view to producing a short and concise political declaration for adoption at the opening plenary of the high-level meeting, on the implementation of the Global Plan of Action;

11. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to finalize the organizational arrangements for the meetings, taking into account the duration of the meetings, the identification of the eminent person and the representative from civil society to speak at the opening plenary meeting and the identification of Chairs for the interactive panel discussions, bearing in mind the level of representation as well as equitable geographical representation;

12. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations entities, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private sector entities and other relevant stakeholders to consider supporting the participation of representatives from developing countries, including representatives of non-governmental organizations from those countries, in order to ensure the broadest possible participation, and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in this regard;

[4] Resolution 48/134, annex.

13. *Decides* that the proceedings of the high-level meeting shall be webcast;

14. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which was established by the Global Plan of Action.

80th plenary meeting
4 May 2017